(U) Military Rank Abbreviations (repost)

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Run Date: 02/08/2005

(U) Civilians: do you know how to abbreviate U.S. military ranks? Each military service uses its own abbreviation scheme. For example, the Army, Air Force and Marine Corps all use the rank of lieutenant colonel, but they abbreviate this rank as LTC, Lt Col (with a blank space), and LtCol (without a space), respectively.

(U) As you can see in the tables below, the Army and Navy use upper case in their abbreviations, while the Air Force and Marine Corps generally use a combination of upper and lower case. Note also that certain ranks are used by only one military branch; this is especially true in the case of the Navy:

Pay Grade	Army	Navy	Air Force	Marine Corps
Enlisted:				
E-1	PV1	SR	AB	Pvt
E-2	PV2	SA	Amn	PFC
E-3	PFC	SN	A1C	LCpl
E-4	CPL/SPC	PO3	SrA	Cpl
E-5	SGT	PO2	SSgt	Sgt
E-6	SSG	PO1	TSgt	SSgt
E-7	SFC	CPO	MSgt	GySgt
E-8	MSG/1SG	SCPO	SMSgt	MSgt/1stSgt
E-9	CSM/SGM	MCPO	CMSgt	SgtMaj/MGySgt
Warrant Officers:				
W-1	WO1	(not used)	none	WO1
W-2	CW2	CWO2	none	CWO2
W-3	CW3	CWO3	none	CWO3
W-4	CW4	CWO4	none	CWO4
W-5	CW5	CWO5	none	CWO5
Officers:				
O-1	2LT	ENS	2nd Lt	2ndLt
O-2	1LT	LTJG	1st Lt	1stLt
O-3	CPT	LT	Capt	Capt
O-4	MAJ	LCDR	Maj	Maj
O-5	LTC	CDR	Lt Col	LtCol
O-6	COL	CAPT	Col	Col
O-7	BG	RDML	Brig Gen	BGen
O-8	MG	RADM	Maj Gen	MajGen
O-9	LTG	VADM	Lt Gen	LtGen
O-10	GEN	ADM	Gen	Gen

(U) The Coast Guard ranks are the same as those of the Navy.

(U) Don't know what the abbreviations break out to? That info, plus the insignia associated with each rank, are on the following web pages:

enlisted ranks and
officer ranks .

(U) Note: The rank of CWO5 in the Navy is relatively new. Promotions to this rank took effect for the first time during the FY04 selection board cycle.

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